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A NATURAL VIOLET HYBRID

VIOLA BRAINERD BAIRD

Viola Douglasii × *purpurea* hyb. nov. Planta aspectu *V. Douglasii* similis, herbae retrorso-pubescentis vel canescens. Folia ambitu oblonga vel rhombico-ovata, in segmentis apiculatis, attenuatis irregulariter pinnate incisa vel divisa; stipulae foliorum basalium eis *V. Douglasii* similes, sed angustiores. Petala ut ea *V. purpurea* tincta. Pistillum ut in *V. purpureo* ovario glabro excepto. (Plate XVIII, fig. 2).

Type. Collected in Walker Basin, between Bodfish and Caliente, Kern County, Sequoia National Forest, California, altitude about 6000 feet, April 18, 1935, *Viola Brainerd Baird* (University of California Herbarium no. 545986).

The hybrid was growing with the two parent species on an open sunny hillside which was covered with *Plagiobothrys nothofulvus*. It was more vigorous than either parent. There were three plants in one cluster, one of which bore eighteen flowers and numerous buds. Further search failed to yield more material, indicating that the two species do not hybridize freely. The respective points of resemblance of the hybrid to the parent species are shown in Table I.

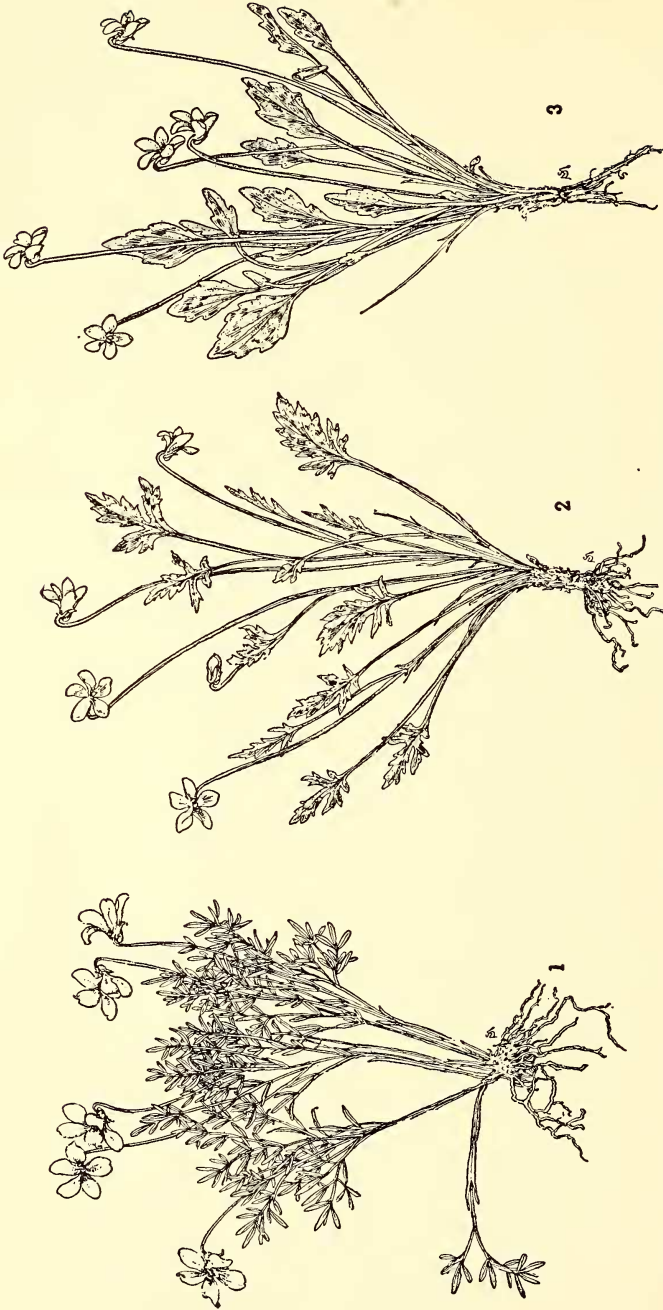


PLATE XVIII. Fig. 1. *Viola Douglasii* Steud. Fig. 2. *Viola Douglasii* × *purpurea* Baird. Fig. 3. *Viola purpurea* Kellogg. Specimens collected in Walker Basin, Kern County, April 18, 1935, by V. B. Baird. Drawings by F. Schuyler Matthews.

TABLE I

	<i>V. Douglasii</i>	<i>V. Douglasii</i> × <i>purpurea</i>	<i>V. purpurea</i>
Height	6-7.5 cm.	10-11.5 cm.	7.5-10 cm.
Pubescence	of short spreading hairs	retorse to canescent	retorse
Rootstock	short and stout with a cluster of strong roots	as in <i>V. Douglasii</i>	long and woody
Leaves	twice pinnately cleft into narrow linear, apiculate segments; blade 2-2.5 cm. long, green throughout	oblong to rhombic-ovate in outline, once pinnately and irregularly cleft or divided into relatively broad acute segments, apiculate and attenuate; blade as in <i>V. Douglasii</i>	oblong to rhombic-ovate, markedly dentate and attenuate; blade 2-2.5 cm. long, often purplish beneath
Radical stipule	2.5-3.2 cm. long, scarious, and wing-like, adhering under ground to the petiole, ending at the surface in a free tip	as in <i>V. Douglasii</i> , but narrower	inconspicuous or wanting
Petals	8-12 mm. long, golden yellow; back of two upper petals reddish brown	yellow as in <i>V. purpurea</i> , and reddish brown on back of two upper petals	6-10 mm. long, yellow, back of upper petals reddish-brown
Pistil	ovary glabrous, style summit head-like with hairs on the head, stigmatic aperture on the top with a small protruding lip just below	ovary glabrous, otherwise as in <i>V. purpurea</i>	ovary pubescent, style summit head-like with hairs on the sides, stigmatic aperture at the end of a tiny tilted "nose"
Cleistogamous flowers	lacking	none developed in garden transplant	abundant
Seeds	buff	none developed in garden transplant	buff-brown

Berkeley, California,
April 20, 1935.